TEXT INSERTION PAGE 1 BEFORE "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION"

This application is a national stage filing of International Application No. PCT/EP04/14027 filed on December 9, 2004.

REPLACEMENT PAGE 1, 3rd PARAGRAPH

In ionization apparatus electrical fields between two electrodes at voltage potentials are utilized in order to generate ions by gas discharge by collision ionization. As it is known in the art, for this purpose ionization tubes in the form of glass tubes are used; the inner side of the tubes is coated and the outer side is electrically conducting. For this purpose, is it is known in the art to arranged arrange preferably tubular metal grid structures on the outer side of the glass tubes so that a coaxial configuration is provided. When an electrical voltage is applied that is sufficient for gas discharge, the glass of the wall becomes a dielectric in which a large electrical field is present. The flowing air is enriched with ions. In DE 196 51 402 A1 (Apparatus for Physical Treatment of Air, in particular, Breathing Air) air ionization devices of a flat configuration are used as electrodes that are spaced apart from one another.